

Liberty Crops Will Require Heroic Effort

Discouraging Crop Outlook Shown by Tribune Survey

Labor Shortage Greatest Factor

Heroic Efforts Required to Produce Needed Bread-stuffs

Wall Street Bureau New York Tribune

WHAT of the 1918 Liberty crops? That interrogation was addressed by The Tribune to several hundred country bankers and to a number of agricultural experts in a manner to constitute a nationwide survey.

Many answers have been received and digested, and the information now is summarized and presented. Its salient features are:

1. There is a shortage of labor, ranging from 20 per cent in the Central and Southern states to as high as 40 per cent in the Western states.
2. That the loss of labor from the farms is owing partly to the draft and partly to the competition of higher wages in war industry.
3. That the food bins of the country will have been scraped bare before this year's crops are gathered.
4. That many farmers are afraid to plant all they can for fear they cannot get the hands to save it at harvest time.
5. That heroic spontaneous efforts will be required to produce the amount of foodstuff this year that is needed to sustain democracy here and abroad.

Bankers Made Investigation

Relatively few of the replies received were given offhand. Interest in the subject was so deep that many bankers made extensive investigation of local conditions, consulting farmers and county and state agricultural officials to get at the facts.

From every state in the country comes the report of labor scarcity, as the paramount factor. The labor deficit in the middle Atlantic states is 50 per cent; in the Southern and Central states, 21 per cent; in the New England states, 38 per cent, and in the Western states, 40 per cent.

In seventy-eight of the sections from which reports were received measures are being taken locally to meet the situation. In most cases, however, the measures consist merely of more or less definite plans to utilize the services of schoolboys. In 100 districts no measures are being taken.

There is a feeling that something must be done, and yet very widely farmers and others are, as a Montana banker tersely puts it, "trusting God." Many sections were very little affected by the draft, in a direct way, the local boards being careful not to take farm labor. In others it is reported that more than half of the supply of farmhands was taken. One hundred and forty-two bankers reporting losses through the draft estimated, on the average, that 18 per cent of the supply had been so absorbed. The loss through voluntary enlistment was heavy in some places.

Indirect Loss Through Draft

In most sections much labor was lost indirectly through the draft. As men were taken from the industrial centers, industry recruited its forces from the farms. The movement of labor from the farms to industry has been constantly increasing for more than two and a half years, much more labor having been lost to agriculture in this way than through the raising of the army.

In the endeavor to retain labor, farmers in some sections have increased wages to a sort of bribe level. In some places farm hands are getting between \$75 and \$100 a month and board, and even such extra attractions as the use of the automobile. The average for the country, however, including the South, where pay is still relatively low, is about \$45 a month and board, against approximately \$28 a month and board normally.

Less fertilizer will be used this year, owing to scarcity, high prices and the lack of labor to spread it. The use of farm machinery is expanding, and in some sections will partially offset the shortage of labor, but not enough to make an important difference in the total production of the country.

This, briefly, is the condition disclosed by the inquiry. Agricultural experts point out that the present requirements are rapidly exhausting what remains of the 1917 crop, and the food bins of the country will have been scraped clean before another harvest. There will be no surplus, or none of consequence, that America will have to depend solely what can be wrested from the soil during the coming season.

Man Power Is Crying Need

"Last year we harvested approximately 84,000,000 acres of wheat, making a yield of 953,000,000 bushels."

Features Within

Part III, page one—**HILAIRE BELLOC** says German army is now trying to break trench deadlock by open fighting on West Front.

Part III, page seven—**Can Von Hertling drive his wedge between "Wicked" England and the "Virtuous" United States?**

Graphic Section, page eight—**Appeal of Belgian workmen to American Labor. Decorations by Wallace Morgan**

Part III, page six—**Romantic departure of young East Side Zionists to join Jewish battalions now forming in England to take Palestine.**

Kultur Bugaboo Is Absurd, Says Alliance Counsel

German Ideals Misunderstood Here, Suro Tells Senate Committee

[Staff Correspondence] WASHINGTON, March 2.—"German Kultur" and the expression "Deutschland uber alles" are not at all understood in the United States, Theodore Suro, of New York, counsel for the National German-American Alliance, told the Senate sub-committee investigating that organization to-day, in testifying against the resolution introduced by Senator King which would cancel the charter under which the German Alliance is incorporated.

"Pan-Germanism," the witness said, "is an absurdity." "An 'any nation' is added, 'which wants to force its Kultur on any other nation is guilty of an absurdity.'"

"Pan-Germanism is the aim of the Prussian autocracy, is it not?" demanded Senator Sterling, of South Dakota. "There have been pan-German organizations in Germany for a long time," said Mr. Suro, "but when I was in Germany, just before the European war broke out, I found that the prominent officials did not sympathize with them. I am quite sure the Emperor is not in sympathy with them."

First Defence Hearing To-day was the first time the defendants of the German-American Alliance had an inquest before the Senate committee. Up to date the committee has been listening to translations of the speeches of the organization's officers and to extracts from its official bulletins, the general purpose of both of which seemed to be to denigrate the United States and to incite to violence against the United States. The committee, with their own language and customs preserved distinctly, to elect men to office who would not be influenced by "muckers" opposed to "Deutschum" and to defeat prohibition wherever it raised its head.

Followed by a perfect retinue of burly forms with Germanic faces, Mr. Suro entered the committee room this afternoon. At his left, during his testimony, sat a man resembling for all the world pictures of captured private soldiers in the German army. Next to him sat two middle-aged men with mustaches turned up at the corners, one of whom, sitting down, could have passed for a picture of the German war lord. The other might also have qualified in this regard had his hair been a shade or two darker and had there been a little more of it in front.

Just behind Mr. Suro sat the new president of the German-American Alliance, the Rev. Dr. S. G. Von Bosse, a most marked contrast with the remainder of the retinue. His face is thin and pale, his hair black, and he has altogether the appearance of a scholar. He said he would need possibly one, and possibly two, hours for his talk, so the committee postponed hearing him till Monday.

Mr. Suro was most evasive and clever in his answers to questions, after he had read a long statement. Seldom did the Senators able to pin him down to a confirmation of any of their points. Newspaper men present who had interviewed Count von Bernstorff were struck with the similarity between his accent and that of Mr. Suro, both alike in their sharp difference from the speech of the average German who comes to this country and learns English. Mr. Suro resembled the count also in the skill of his fencing.

"Germans Misunderstood" Mr. Suro's legal argument, which was presented in a sort of brief, he read, and which he will supplement by another brief before the hearing closes, consisted chiefly of a demurrer to the legal strength of the attack on his organization. He contended that no evidence had been presented which would be admitted by a court as showing the culpability of the alliance.

Senators King, Walcott and Sterling hammered at him for more than an hour, erasing passages from the official bulletin of the organization, and also from the speeches made by Dr. Hovamor, who was president until recently. After erasing each passage, Mr. Suro would be asked if he agreed with the statements made therein. It was in qualifying the meaning of words in those passages that he declared that German "Kultur" and the expression "Deutschland uber alles" were not understood in the United States. Replied under one question as to whether he agreed with a statement in the bulletin urging German-Americans to work for the spread of German "Kultur," he said there were in the German social life many things which it would be to the advantage of this country to adopt. There were hearty shakes of head in approval from the members of the retinue.

"American 'kultur' should not be asperged," he went on slowly, "but the two should continue, side by side. I think it broadens any man to understand the 'kultur' of another nation."

At another time in the testimony he

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Wilson Numbs Nation's Will, Beck Charges

Four Peace Principles Have Clouded Our Minds, Says Lawyer

Republican Club Diners Cheer Him

Suggests the Elimination of the "Intellectual Bolsheviki" Here

James M. Beck, publicist, author of "The Evidence in the Case" and former Assistant United States Attorney General, in a speech before the Republican Club yesterday charged that President Wilson, in laying down four principles as a basis for peace in his address to Congress on February 11, had "mystified the mind and paralyzed the will of the American people."

"Nothing more unfortunate has happened," said Mr. Beck, "since we entered the war."

The 200 or more men who listened to Mr. Beck's address greeted this utterance and similar ones with thunderous applause. Time and again the speaker was cheered and at one time every man in the hall rose and shouted approval.

"If the President," said Mr. Beck, "will eliminate from his councils the intrigues, the pacifists, the doctrinaires and intellectual Bolsheviki he will confirm the confidence which his countrymen have so fully and ungrudgingly given him."

At several points Mr. Beck went beyond his text, in one such departure saying: "If the war is to be compromised by diplomatic finesse, if it is to be settled on the basis of four innocuous and almost meaningless principles, then all the dead who have died in vain."

Departing again from his text, Mr. Beck said: "If to-morrow a peace were arranged on a concrete interpretation of these four proposals, millions of soldiers would leave the trenches, and backed up by millions of civilians, they would say to Germany: 'You have defied the world with your lust for power; you have mocked humanity; you have violated our women, ruined our lands. We will not have intercourse with you; we will not treat with you; we will not trade with you, so long as you stand, cynical and defiant, leaning at the civilized world.'"

This was the statement which brought the audience to its feet.

After the meeting Mr. Beck was surrounded by men who shook his hand. Many men in the uniforms of army and navy officers were in the crowd that congratulated him.

President's Peace Principles

The peace principles of President Wilson, referred to by Mr. Beck, were as follows:

1. Each part of the final settlement must be based upon the essential justice of that particular case and upon such adjustments as are

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Preachers of Anarchy Will Be Deported

Agitators of Subotage Will Be Rounded Up on Order of Wilson

Many Arrests in Northwest Expected

I. W. W. Members Are Not Subject to Seizure on Sight

WASHINGTON, March 2.—A vigorous policy for the suppression of anarchists and all who advocate sabotage and other forms of lawlessness was announced to-day by Secretary of Labor Wilson. He issued orders to immigration officials in the Northwest to immediately arrest aliens guilty of spreading such doctrine. Even though they may not commit any overt act they will be detained and deported.

His action was in answer to requests from employers and civic organizations of Seattle and other cities that the department undertake the wholesale internment of Industrial Workers of the World, who were blamed for industrial unrest, particularly in the logging camps.

Mr. Wilson held that membership in the I. W. W. organization was not in itself cause for arrest or deportation, but that alien industrial workers or any other aliens who preach overthrow of the government by force or assassination or who are in any other manner subject to deportation under the immigration laws should be taken into custody at once.

The Labor Department stands ready to support the round-up of anarchistic agitators by supplying funds to obtain additional quarters if the Seattle situation proves inadequate for interning them.

Orders for the suppression of radical propaganda by aliens are regarded by officials as the final step in the government's determination to put a stop to extremists who seek to interfere with the prosecution of the war. Citizens of the United States who preach anarchy will be handled by the Department of Justice, which brought about the arrest of scores of Industrial Workers in the nation-wide raids last year.

With a full personal knowledge of the situation in the Northwest. As chairman of the President's Mediation Commission he investigated the unrest in the lumber camps. He visited mills last fall and succeeded in quieting the situation to a marked degree.

Canadian Workmen Demand Stronger Beer

TORONTO, March 2.—A large procession of workmen marched to the Parliament buildings late to-day and asked for an increase in the strength of prohibited beer. The request was refused by the provincial Premier, William Hearst, who was "booed" by the crowd.

The request was that 2½ per cent of alcohol instead of 2 per cent proof spirits be established as the legal strength.

Germans Cut Off Petrograd; Capture Kiev; U. S. Plans No Interference in Siberia

Washington Non-Committal as to Japan's Proposed Invasion

Allies Consider Far East Problem

Answer to Tokio May Hinge on American Attitude

[Staff Correspondence]

WASHINGTON, March 2.—The Japanese Embassy received confirmation to-day of an unofficial Tokio dispatch stating that Viscount Motono, the Foreign Minister, had announced to the Diet that the government was conferring with the Entente Allies on the Russian situation and the measures that ought to be taken to meet it.

It was learned in a high diplomatic quarter that eminent Allied statesmen and soldiers agree that the menace to the peace of the Far East constituted by the wide-rung invasion of Russia by German and Austro-Hungarian armies makes imperative the establishment of an Allied military line in the East, and that it is practicable only for Japan to undertake the expulsion of the project. There is reason to believe that the United States will maintain its present "neutral" or non-commitment attitude toward the proposition, although such an attitude implies a lack of sympathy with it. It was intimated in an official Administration quarter that, far from participating with Japan in the occupation of Siberian territory, the United States very probably would refrain from expressing any views whatever, rather than interposing any positive opposition to the enterprise.

Position of United States

This authority said: "The United States has no interest in the occupation of Vladivostok. The only vessels we have there are for patrol duty. Russia is a big country, and it is impossible to foresee what will happen there, but it is a very difficult situation. Japan probably feels that, if Germany captures Petrograd and continues her advance into Russia, Japan herself will be in a very difficult position. The German forces are stopped, and Japan may lose her spheres of influence. If Germany does take Petrograd and Moscow, she might be able to take all Asia."

"This country would not be likely to take part in a Siberian campaign or in the occupation of Vladivostok. We have, in this place, no transports in which to send troops to Asia. It would be of no use for us to go anywhere unless we can go well. But if we went into Siberia the first thing Germany would do would be to take us, we would be going to take a part of Russia, although, if we went, it would only be to hold a line. Germany would compare the invasion with her own advance into Russia, declaring that she has as much justification for occupying Russian territory as the United States could have."

"There are so many different angles to the situation that it is difficult to say anything definite about it. As for the United States, we are sending soldiers to France. The war is going to be won there."

State Department Silent

The State Department has declined to make any comment on the new Japanese question, since it was denied several days ago that it had been consulted on the matter. Subsequently it was learned that, in reply to an inquiry from Japan, this government took the position of withholding any expression of its views.

Boris Bakmeteff, the Russian Ambassador, is in New York and will not return to his city until Monday. It is known, however, that both he and other prominent Russians in this country are greatly exercised over the prospect of loss, the American taking prisoners and maintaining their lines intact. These two points referred to may be the Toul sector and the Chemin-des-Dames sector (where two columns of German were elected to their trenches after ten Americans and a few French had been captured), or the statement may mean there was a double attack on the German lines in Lorraine not otherwise reported.

Americans Drop Gas Masks to Fight Freely

[By The Associated Press]

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, March 2.—The three recent raids, one in the Toul sector and two along the Chemin-des-Dames, have demonstrated that the American soldier, despite his previous inexperience, is now perfectly at home in a gas mask and able to fight just as well with or without it. In so quickly reaching this stage, the Americans have shown their usual adaptability. Gas was used in all three attacks in just sufficient quantities to make masks necessary, as the Germans, in their later attacks, did not desire to encounter quantities of their own gas.

When the engagement at Toul began, virtually all the Americans were masked. Some few of the men, however, are reported to have taken a chance when the German infantry attacked, pulling off their masks for freer action. One officer risked his life to give commands to his men during the roar of explosions. He was unable through his mask to make his men hear, so he pulled it off and yelled his orders. As it happened, there was no gas in this particular sector, but he did not know it.

In diplomatic circles it was asserted that the great concern of England and her interest in the occupation by Japan of Russian territory are related to the defence of India and of China, and that France's interests also relate principally to China, although at the same time the interests of the two powers coincide exactly with Japan's.

Rumanian Parley Has Failed, Paper in Berlin Reports

AMSTERDAM, March 2.—According to the "Vossische Zeitung," of Berlin, the peace negotiations at Bucharest, Rumania, have failed. It is understood King Ferdinand's reply to the Central Powers was unsatisfactory.

Other German newspapers say the negotiations were interrupted because Dr. von Kuhlmann and Count Czernin, respectively German and Austro-Hungarian Foreign Ministers, had been summoned to Brest-Litovsk. A semi-official statement issued in Berlin, however, denied that they had left the Rumanian capital.

interests relating to her national defence, to the defence of India, in a word, the preservation of peace in the Far East.

Protection Secondary

The guarding of the Transsiberian Railway, the protection of the vast military stores at Vladivostok and the policing of Amur were declared to be secondary considerations. Only further serious developments, including a movement in force of German troops into Siberia, would prompt Japan to extend the Allied Asiatic line to be established along coastal Siberia into the interior beyond Harbin.

No confirmation had been received here officially to-night of the reported actual invasion of Siberia by Japanese troops. It has been known in Washington, however, for a considerable time that Japan had mobilized formidable military forces in both Korea and Manchuria, and was prepared at a moment's notice to enter Siberia.

The number of troops available for use in Siberia and Northern Manchuria is unknown, but it is believed here that not less than an army corps would be dispatched to Siberia in the first instance.

Berlin Report Claims Capture Of 12 Americans

American Casualties North of Toul Heavy; Assertion Doubtful

LONDON, March 2.—Twelve Americans were captured in the raid on the American line northwest of Toul yesterday, Berlin announced officially to-day. The statement also asserted that the American casualties were heavy.

Doubts on the correctness of the enemy claim of prisoners were expressed here in view of a dispatch from a correspondent with the American army, which said at the most the Germans might have taken two or three men from a listening post, and it was thought no men had been captured.

The part of the German official statement dealing with the operations on the American front was as follows: "Between the Meuse and the Moselle in the Toul sector, the German army, penetrating the enemy trenches north-east of Seicheprey, Americans who were manning the trenches suffered heavy casualties and lost twelve prisoners."

The French official statement of last night said that at two points Germans specially trained for raids had come in contact with American infantry, in both cases the enemy suffering heavy losses, the Americans taking prisoners and maintaining their lines intact. These two points referred to may be the Toul sector and the Chemin-des-Dames sector (where two columns of German were elected to their trenches after ten Americans and a few French had been captured), or the statement may mean there was a double attack on the German lines in Lorraine not otherwise reported.

Austrians Enter Podolia

The Austrian official statement of Friday, received here to-day, said the appeals from the inhabitants of Podolia for troops of the Central Powers to help them had been especially pressing the last few days. Therefore, General von Borh-Ermold's troops advanced and have reached the line of Novo Silecia-Chotin and Kametna-Podolsky. They are instructed to "re-establish order" and "protect commercial routes needed for importation."

The points mentioned are just east of Bukovina and just north of the line between Poland and Rumania. The Austrians, therefore, are rounding the right flank of the Rumanian army, while on their own left they link up with von Linsingen's Germans.

The Austrian statement says so far about 10,000 Russians have laid down their arms and considerable munitions, railway cars and supplies have been captured.

Losses by Germans

An Amsterdam dispatch says that in the capture of Pskov by the Germans one of the German battalions suffered heavy losses through an explosion caused by the retreating Russians, according to a Berlin dispatch printed in the "Volkszeitung" of Cologne.

The decision of the Austro-Hungarian government to send troops into the Ukraine was explained yesterday in the upper house of the Austrian Parliament by Premier von Seydler as having been taken in response to an urgent request for assistance from the Ukrainian government. The request was made, he said, in consequence of events in the Ukraine which threatened to interfere with the transportation of food-stuffs.

"In the circumstances," he continued, "we could not refuse our help. The necessity has arisen for participation by the monarchy in an action which has not the least connection with any act of war and which possesses no political character whatever. It rather constitutes solely an act of legal assistance rendered at the request of another state in the interest of that state. Naturally, this assistance must not be given except by the employment of limited military forces."

Invaders Plan to Force Capital's Surrender by Famine

Vital Freight Centre Seized by Teutons

Francis Safe; All Americans Out of Moscow and Petrograd

London, March 2.—German forces are moving on the town of Bologoe, on the Moscow-Petrograd railroad, which place is the chief freight centre for the feeding of Petrograd, says a dispatch from Petrograd, under date of Friday, received by The Exchange Telegraph Company. The Germans probably intend, the message adds, thus to cut off supplies from Petrograd and to compel the capital to capitulate by famine.

Large columns of German troops, the correspondent says, are marching toward Novosokolniki. Enemy forces have occupied the station of Kiliatsitsa in their movement in the direction of Petrograd.

German troops have captured Kiev, the capital of Ukraina, and are moving forward at many points, said the official war statement given out in Berlin to-day. The Bolshevik defence measures, seemingly, are having little effect on them.

A delayed Austrian official war statement says troops of the dual monarchy have entered Podolia, "for friendly interventions," going "in response to repeated appeals by the government and the population."

Bolsheviki Defeated

General von Linsingen's forces, said to-day's Berlin official statement, defeated the Russians near Rychitsa, and then captured Gomel, 120 miles southeast of the former Russian general headquarters city of Mohilev. The taking of Gomel is important, because it shows the enemy has crossed the Dnieper River here. Rychitsa lies on the west bank of the stream and Gomel just beyond the marshes on the east bank. This formidable barrier did not hold up the Germans a day, apparently. The invaders are also probably across the Dnieper, at Kiev, which is about 100 miles south of Gomel.

Kiev, which is one of the most important cities in the old Russian Empire, "was liberated by Ukrainian and Saxon troops," the Berlin official statement said. No reference is made to fighting for the city, which was captured by the Bolsheviks from the forces of the Ukrainian Rada on February 8 with reported casualties of 4,000 killed and 7,000 wounded. Kiev undoubtedly now becomes the capital of the new Ukrainian republic.

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Demand Holy War

A dispatch from Vologda, Russia, whither most of the foreign diplomats have fled from Petrograd, says an example of the tendency to follow the example of Moscow and declare against a separate peace with Germany and for a fight to the limit for the revolution is furnished by the action of the Council of Soldiers' and Workmen's Delegates at Penza, some 350 miles southeast of Moscow. This council has declined to approve the signing of a

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